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GERMAN MILITARY GOVERNMENT OVER EUROPE

1939-1943

Methods and Organization of Nazi Controls

THE NAZI PARTY IN OCCUPIED EUROPE

Description

This paper is a section of a comprehensive study of German military government in Occupied Europe. It describes the organization and functions of the National Socialist Party in Occupied Europe.

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The study of German Military Government over Europe 1939-43 is a study of the methods and organization of controls which the Nazi's have established for the subjugation and exploitation of conquered countries. The emphasis of the study was laid upon the agencies and institutions which the Nazis have been using. The results which were produced by the Nazis in the various countries are only touched upon as far as they illustrate practices of Nazi administration.

This study on German Military Government over Europe - The Nazi Party in Occupied Europe was prepared for the

MILITARY GOVERNMENT DIVISION, OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL

by the

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH, OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

Officers using this material are requested to make suggestions and criticisms indicating the revisions or additions which would make this material more useful for their purposes. These criticisms should be sent to THE CHIEF OF THE LIAISON AND STUDIES BRANCH, MILITARY GOVERNMENT DIVISION, PMGO, 2807 MUNITIONS BUILDING, WASHINGTON 25 D.C.

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Summary

The introduction discusses briefly the National Socialist Party within the German Reich in its original and functional aspects. A historical survey of the Foreign Organization (Auslands-organisation) of the Party is given, together with its regional and functional organization.

The second section brings together the known information concerning operations of the National Socialist Party in Occupied Europe. Special Party units are described, as are their operations in the various types of occupied territory: annexed territories, those under civil administration, and those under German military administration. Because of its peculiarities, the situation in Denmark is discussed separately. The paper closes with a detailed survey of the German Folk-Groups (Volksgruppen) in various countries under German domination.

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I. INTRODUCTION: THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY IN THE REICH

A. General

The organization and the activities of the National Socialist Party (Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei, NSDAP) in occupied territories reproduce, in large measure, the patterns of its domestic structure and functions. In order to describe the activities of the NSDAP in occupied Europe, it is necessary to begin with a brief survey of the Party organization in Germany itself, especially of that department of the NSDAP which plans and supervises foreign activities.

The Party is organized both regionally and functionally. The regional organization follows the geographical subdivisions of the Reich and of the annexed or occupied territories. The functional organization, cutting across regional boundaries, is based upon the various types of activity engaged in by the Party. The whole organization is unified by the leadership principle in the person of the Fuehrer and the Reich Leadership (Reichsleitung) of the NSDAP--the heads of the main offices and chief formations of the NSDAP.

B. Regional Organization

The largest regional Party unit is the Gau. This is subdivided into Counties (Kreise), Local Groups (Ortsgruppen), Cells (Zellen), and Blocks (Blocks).

Following the organizational pattern of the Reich Leadership, these units have a Gau leadership (Gauleitung), County leadership (Kreisleitung), etc. Also represented are the technical and functional offices and departments of the Reich Leadership, as well as the subsections of the Party

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Formations and of Affiliated and Supervised organizations.

Of the forty-three Gaue, eleven are called Reichsgaue. These administrative units were formed after the annexation of Austria, Sudetenland, and parts of Poland. They are characterized by a much closer coordination between government and Party administration than prevails in the Reich states and government provinces. In a Reichsgau, except for the Protectorate, boundaries of Party and government administration coincide. Party Gauleiter are Reich Governors.

C. Functional Organization

The functional organizations of the NSDAP are divided into three groups: (1) Formations (Gliederungen), (2) Affiliated Associations (Angeschlossene Verbaende), and (3) Supervised Organizations (Betreute Organisationen). Of these the Formations are closest to the Party, though they do not require Party membership. Both Affiliated and Supervised Organizations are subject to Party financial control under the Party Treasurer, the only exceptions being the German Labor Front and the National Socialist (NS) Flying Corps.

The functional organizations of the NSDAP are:

FORMATIONS

Storm Troopers (Sturmabteilungen, SA)
Elite Guards (Schutzstaffeln, SS)
NS Motor Corps (NS Kraftfahrkorps, NSKK)
Hitler Youth (Hitler Jugend, HJ; including BDM)
NS German Lecturers' Association (NSD Dozentenbund)
NS German Students Association (NSD Studentenbund)
NS Women's Association (NS Frauenschaft)

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AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

German Labor Front	(Deutsche Arbeitsfront, DAF)
NS Public Welfare Association	(NS-Volkswohlfahrt, NSV)
NS German Medical Association	(NSD Aerztebund)
NS Association of Guardians of the Law	(NS Rechtswahrerbund)
*NS Teachers' Association	(NS Lehrerbund, NSL)
NS Organization for War Victims	(NS Kriegsopferversorgung, NSKOV)
*Reich Association of German Officials	(Reichsbund der deutschen Beamten)
NS Association of German Technology	(NS Bund Deutscher Technik)

SUPERVISED ORGANIZATIONS

German Students' Society	(Deutsche Studentenschaft)
NS Association of Former Corps Members	(NS Altherrenbund)
German Women's Work	(Deutsches Frauenwerk)
German Local Government Assembly	(Deutscher Gemeindetag)
NS Physical Exercise Association	(NS Reichsbund fuer Leibesuebungen)
Reich Association of the German Family	(Reichsbund Deutsche Familie)
NS Association of German Nurses	(NS Reichsbund Deutscher Schwestern)

*Abolished during total mobilization early in 1943.

Some of the organizations have reduced their administrative machinery (NSV, NSKOV, DAF, and the Medical Association), and not all of them have been developed by the Party abroad. But, as many have extended their activities to the occupied territories, they are included here for the sake of reference. Other semi-Party organizations, such as the Organisation Todt (OT), the Baustab Speer, and the Technical Emergency Help (Technische Nothilfe), have become important instruments in the foreign activities of the NSDAP. They are treated in a handbook on technical and economic troops.

D. The Foreign Organization of the NSDAP

The Reich Leadership of the NSDAP includes a special Foreign Department, called Auslandsorganisation (AO), which is a part of the Chancellery of the Fuehrer under Martin Bormann. The AO is the agency which provides for the extension of the Party into foreign countries, whether occupied or not.

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Regionally, it may be considered as Gau 43, including all territory outside the boundaries of Greater Germany. Functionally, it is the department in charge of Party activities among Reich and Racial Germans abroad. As Nazi political ambitions have been realized by the Wehrmacht, the organizations which the Party had established in foreign countries prior to the outbreak of the war have become invaluable instruments of support for the invading troops and authorities of occupations.

1. Historical Survey

The beginnings of the Foreign Organization of the NSDAP date back to the foundation of the "Foreign Section of the Reich's Directorate of the NSDAP" on 1 May 1931. The office was placed, with headquarters at Hamburg, under the direction of Dr. Hans Nieland who had been most active in promoting it. The aim of the office was defined simply as "the winning over to the Party of persons of German origin and the establishment of Party groups wherever the number of Party members justifies the formation of an organization."

The term "Foreign German" (Auslandsdeutsch) is sufficiently vague and elastic for Nazi purposes. Officially, the AO is concerned only with citizens of the Reich resident abroad (Reichsdeutsche). Actually, its activities have always been extended to include the so-called "Racial Germans" (Volksdeutsche) who are citizens of other countries. The meaning of this distinction in Nazi ideology and practice is discussed more fully in the survey on the so-called "Folk Groups" (Volksgruppen).

The importance of the organization increased greatly with the appointment of Ernst Wilhelm Bohle as its leader on 8 May 1933. Bohle, a protege of Hess, became a member of the staff of the Fuehrer's Deputy, with the

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rank of a Gauleiter. After the flight of Hess, the functions of the office of the Fuehrer's Deputy were assigned to the office of the Fuehrer's Chancellery under Reich Leader Martin Bormann, formerly also on the staff of Hess. Thus, the position of the Foreign Organization inside the Party is dual. On the one hand, its officials are part of the staff of the Fuehrer's Chancellery and, hence, directly responsible to the Fuehrer or his Deputy, the Director of the Party Chancellery. On the other hand, the Foreign Organization is considered a Gau in the regional breakdown of the Nazi Party and is subdivided, in so far as the special conditions of foreign countries permit, into lower regional units similar to the Gaue of the Reich.

Closest coordination between state and Party has been achieved in the foreign service, partly through personal and partly through functional union. As early as October 1935 the German Foreign Service (diplomatic and consular officials) was inducted as a professional group into the Foreign Organization, insuring the collaboration of the Foreign Service representatives abroad with the Nazi Party agents. This process was completed when Bohle was transferred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He first served as the "Head of the Foreign Organization" in the Ministry; later he assumed the position of a Secretary of State with the same functions (22 December 1937).

The Party's hold upon the Foreign Office, many of the officials of which had been cool and hostile toward Party interference, was tightened during this period and may be assumed to have increased under the influence of the Ribbentrop group. In 1937 all officials of the Foreign Office and all members of the Foreign Service throughout the world were

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organized into a Party Local Group (Ortsgruppe).

While the Party still maintains its own Foreign Affairs Department (Auswärtiges Amt) under Rosenberg, this branch has lost most of its functions since the "Ribbentrop Bureau," its former Party competitor in the Office of the Deputy of the Fuehrer, was officially appointed to conduct the affairs of the Foreign Ministry of the Reich. Three offices of the Party's Auswärtiges Amt may, however, be mentioned: Ostamt, or Office for Eastern Europe; Amt Sonderaufgaben, which has contributed to the plans for the New Order; and the Aussenpolitische Schulungshaus der NSDAP, the training school of the Party for foreign affairs.

2. Organization and Activities

As an official Gau of the NSDAP, the Foreign Organization is, like the Party in general, subdivided into regional and functional parts.

a. Regional. The regional divisions correspond closely to the divisions of the Party Gaue inside Germany. The largest unit is the Country Group (Landesgruppe), to which level most of the foreign branches of the Party have now been elevated. The Country Group is subdivided into Regional Counties (Landeskreise); then to the Local Groups (Ortsgruppe); then Cells (Zellen); Operational Branches (Stuetzpunkte). In origin, this order is, of course, in reverse. Operational Branches are expanded into Cells and Local Groups, Local Groups are combined into Regional Counties, and Regional Counties are enlarged to Country Groups. Special groups are also organized by a Seamen's Department on board German ships. These are considered either as operational branches or as local groups of the Foreign Organization.

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The supervision of these world-wide activities in the Gauleitung of the Foreign Organization is entrusted to eight regional departments (Laenderaemter):

I. Northeastern Europe.
II. Western Europe (excluding Great Britain and Ireland).
III. Southeastern Europe, Austria, and the Near East.
IV. Italy, Switzerland, and Hungary.
V. Africa.
VI. North America.
VII. Latin America.
VIII. Far East, Australia Great Britain, and Ireland.

These eight departments constitute the political foundation of the AO. They are responsible to the Gauleiter for the entire development of Country Groups and Regional Counties, as well as of the independent Local Groups existing in certain countries. The Director of each Laenderamt is acquainted through personal experience with the characteristics and conditions of the regions under his jurisdiction. All correspondence passes through his hands, he is charged with correlating and coordinating policies in his area, and of contributing to matters of general policy in the AO. He also plays an important part in the selection and supervision of Party officials and leaders in the countries over which his control extends.

In addition, there is the Seamen's Department, charged with jurisdiction over all seafaring Party members and nationals. It consists of four sectional subdivisions: Weser-Ems (Bremen); Elbe (Hamburg); Western Baltic (Kiel); Eastern Baltic (Stettin). Whereas all other major offices of the Foreign Organization have been moved to Berlin, the central office of the Seamen's Department has remained in Hamburg, where the AO was founded.

As the leadership principle is applied to all these divisions, there are leaders of the Country Groups (Landesgruppenleiter), of the Counties

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Groups, etc. All officials of the AO are recognized as Hoheitstraeger (bearers of authority) of the Party.

b. Functional. Beside the regional divisions of the AO, there are functional departments and Fachaemter (functional offices)--again similar to the functional structure of a Party Gau inside Germany. The following departments and offices are particularly important:

(1) The German Labor Front of the AO. This includes all members of the German Labor Front (Deutsche Arbeitsfront, DAF) abroad and at sea, and conducts the social and occupational work of the AO.

(2) The Department for Government Employees handles all occupational affairs of employees of the Foreign Service residing abroad.

(3) The Office for Foreign Trade, again subdivided both on a regional and a functional basis, handles all questions of foreign trade.

(4) The Inspection Department prepares statistics on foreign German affairs and institutions.

(5) The Department for Culture observes and supervises German cultural institutions abroad and promotes cultural exchange between the German people and other nations.

(6) The Press Department supplies the Reich press, as well as the foreign German press, on all developments concerning Germans abroad.

(7) The Legal Department deals with questions of legal protection, legal administration, and legal policy.

(8) The Speaker's Department has charge of speaking assignments, the organization of meetings and festivals abroad, and all radio and film work.

(9) The Department for Returning Germans arranges for the employment of Germans returning from abroad.

There are also offices which exercise control over occupational, vocational, and other groups, such as departments and organizations for teachers, lawyers, professors, and students abroad. There are organizations

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for women and youth, which are maintained in close association with the Reich Women's Organization and the Hitler Youth. There is frequently a personal union between the heads of these organizations and those of government offices. The Head of the Youth Department of the Foreign Organization is also the Director of the Foreign Department of the Youth Office in the Reich.

Then, there is a Department for People's Welfare, which administers relief and directs Winter Help activities abroad. Its local groups are presumably absorbed by the activities of the NS Public Welfare Association (which does not maintain a branch abroad) wherever the Party itself moves into new territories to be annexed or occupied. Finally, there are a Technical Department, which works in cooperation with the Office of Foreign Trade, a Personnel Department, a Finance Department, an Instruction Department, and a Tribunal.

This complex organization has served to indoctrinate Germans abroad with Nazi methods and ideology. With the support of other home Party organizations, it has been used for the preparation of the Nazi pattern of conquest.

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II. THE NSDAP IN OCCUPIED EUROPE

The activities of the Party in the administration and exploitation of the annexed and occupied territories in Europe vary with the administrative patterns introduced by the Nazis in the territories. The administrative types in German-occupied territories which may be distinguished are: full annexation and incorporation into the Reich; civilian administration; military administration. There are further differentiations within each type, because of military, political, and racial considerations. These, in turn, influence the Party's position. Aside from its jurisdiction over all Reichsdeutsche organized in the different branches of the AO, and its influence over racial Germans who are citizens of other countries, the Party fulfills certain functions, both in relation to the administration of the occupied territories and in relation to non-German, native fascist groups.

A. Special Party Units

Regardless of administrative differences, there are certain Party or semi-Party units found in all occupied territories which fulfill the same functions everywhere. These units are: SS, (both regular and Waffen SS) NSKK, Organization Todt, Baustab Speer, and DAF. Though the activities of these organizations are described in separate reports, and will not be surveyed here, it must be pointed out that the units of the SS, the Einsatzstaebe of the NSKK, OT, and Baustab Speer form, together with the DAF, perhaps the most important spearheads of the Party in the occupation and exploitation of these territories.

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B. The Party in Annexed Territories

These territories include: Austria, Sudetenland, Upper Silesia, Memel, Danzig, Pomerania, Eupenx-Malmedy, Moresnet, Alsace, Lorraine, and Luxembourg. The situation here is simple. All Reich Party organizations and functions nave been introduced, in so far as they had not existed prior to occupation, into the newly annexed regions.

The administrative unit of the Reichsgau was adopted for the coordination of Party and government activities in most of these territories. Austria was divided into seven Reichsgaue: Vienna, Lower Danube, Upper Danube, Carinthia, Styria, Salzburg, and Tyrol. The remaining four Reichsgaue -- Sudentenland, Wartheland, Danzig-Westpreussen, and Westmark -- have absorbed most of the other territory added to the Reich.

The so-called Gau Westmark, which is composed of Lorraine and the Saarpfalz, seems to be a Reichsgau in everything but name. The Reich Governor and Gauleiter is Josef Buerckel. Alsace and Luxembourg belong to Gau Baden and Gau Moselland respectively as far as Party activities are concerned. However, the Gauleiter of Baden, Robert Wagner, is also Chief of the Civil Administration (Chef der Zivilverwaltung) in Alsace; and the Gauleiter of Moselland, Gustav Simon, holds the same position for Luxembourg. In these territories, too, the repatriation of Party members and "reliable" Racial Germans (Volksdeutsche) has been qualified by the proviso of revocability (Widerruf).

C. The Party in Territories under Civil Administration

The Party has developed different types of foreign organizations in accordance with the variations in the types of civil administrations. These administrative distinctions are based upon military and political

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expediency, as well as racial ideology. Major differences are:

> Civil administration in territories fully incorporated into the Reich, but not on an equal status with the annexed areas (General Government and the Protectorate).
>
> Civil administration in territories not incorporated but under complete German and Party domination without local governments or Party organizations (Ostland and the Ukraine).
>
> Civil administration in territories not incorporated but, in spite of German domination, with some kind of local government and Party organization (The Netherlands and Norway).

1. Spheres of Operation (Arbeitsbereiche) of the NSDAP. The Arbeitsbereich (Sphere of Operations) is a new institution in the foreign activities of the NSDAP. It provides for an intensification of Party activities beyond those of the AO. As it supersedes the organization of the AO, it has been officially taken out of the Foreign Organization, under Gauleiter Bohle, and placed directly under the Fuehrer in the Party Chancellery directed by Bormann. This separate status of the Arbeitsbereich in the foreign activities of the Party was necessitated by the specific tasks and functions assigned to the Party in the areas in which Arbeitsbereiche had been established.

In general, these functions represent an integration of Party work with that of the civil administration. This was recognized in the change of the Dutch Country Group of the AO into a "Sphere of Operation" of the NSDAP; it has been confirmed by the activities of the Arbeitsbereiche General Government and East.

In this way, the Arbeitsbereich becomes a type of foreign organization through which state and Party strive for a totalitarian control over territories by consolidating their respective activities. It forms the basis for a gradual coordination of all state and Party agencies in matters of ad-

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ministration and policy pertaining chiefly to ideology. The instruments of physical control--the police and security services--remain, of course, in the hands of the SS, responsible to Himmler.

First established in the General Government, the Arbeitsbereich was later extended to the Netherlands and the occupied East. It has not been introduced into Norway, the Protectorate, or any territory under military administration where Party activities remain under the jurisdiction of the AO. In the various territories, the pattern of the Arbeitsbereich itself is not uniform. While in the General Government and the occupied East there is complete personal union between the Reich Governor or Reich Commissioner and the Bereichsleiter (leader of the Sphere of Operations), in the Netherlands the leader of the Arbeitsbereich is entrusted only with the title and tasks of Commissioner for Special Services (Kommissar zur besonderen Verwendung). As such he is in charge of propaganda policy and general ideological indoctrination, and he also serves as representative of Sauckel as General Commissioner for the Allocation of Labor. Other economic matters do not fall within his jurisdiction. However, the Reich Commissioner is not directly identified with Party affairs.

Conditions in the Netherlands also differ from those in the Eastern territories in that local Party and administrative units share in the exploitation of their country under the supervision of the Reich Commissariat and the German Party agencies.

a. General Government. The Arbeitsbereich General Government was established by decree of the Reich Governor and Leader of the Party in the General Government on 6 May 1940. The unity of Party and state leadership in the person of Hans Frank has continued in the lower ranks both by

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personal identity between Party and state functionaries and by functional union of offices. The Voekischer Beobachter calls this coordination of state and Party functions "an organizational form without precedent" which finds its completion in the detailed work of the lowest Party units.

Regionally, the Party Sphere of Operations is divided into five districts: Galicia, Cracow, Lublin, Radom, Warsaw. The districts are divided into Local Groups which again are subdivided into Blocks, Cells, and Operational Branches.

The chief functional departments of the Parteileitung are: General Staff Office, Finance, Organization, Personnel, Training, Propaganda, Tribunal, Inspection, Economics, Labor and Social Policy, Welfare, Press, Race, Health, and Agriculture. It is much the same functional division as is found in the Reich Leadership of the NSDAP. Branch offices of most of these departments have been organized in the lower units of Districts and Local Groups.

Finally, there are the regular Party Formations and Affiliated Associations.

The SA in the General Government was officially organized on the Fuehrer's birthday in 1942. It absorbed the existing Wehrschuetzen-Bereitschaften (auxiliary para-military units) and was entrusted with the same general functions as the SA in the Reich--pre-military and post-military training. The units are now simply called Wehrbereitschaften. In 1943 the number of SA members was estimated as eleven regiments (Standarten) or one hundred and fifty companies (Stuerme).

German youth, divided into HJ (Hitler Jugend) and BDM (Bund Deutscher Maedel) differs in no way from the Youth of the Reich. Its activities are widespread and include a special "Land Service" for agricultural work,

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pre-military training as given by the Reich HJ, special welfare campaigns and collections (Winter Help), and care of wounded soldiers from the Eastern Front. For many of these activities, especially land service, so-called "volunteers," from Nazi Youth organizations in Estonia, Latvia, Belgium, Holland, and Norway, have been brought into the General Government. They also assist in the re-Germanization campaign for Racial Germans (Volksdeutsche). BDM girls have taken charge of special educational groups and programs. There exists also a Volksdeutsche Gemeinschaft, directed by the former leader of the "German Party" in Poland, which is concerned primarily with the repatriation of the so-called Racial Germans. Youth Camps, as well as several so-called "Houses of Youth", have been established in various parts of the country (Cracow, etc.). Cracow is also the seat of a Schulungsburg (ideological training center) of the NSDAP. The Government has issued a special law for the Protection of Youth.

Of other Party organizations, the activities of the NSF, NSV, and the Teachers' Association have been identified, and other have been reported in the process of activation. All the Formations and organizations of the NSDAP in the General Government, together with the Armed Forces, SS, and Police, paraded before Reich Governor Frank on the occasion of the third great Party meeting at Cracow, giving symbolic expression to the "full union of Party and state."

Functions and activities of the SS, NSKK, and Organization Todt and Speer are treated separately. Party activitiesare also described in detail in the regional report on the General Government

b. East (Ost). In the occupied territories of the East, the penetration of the Party is perhaps even more complete than in the General

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Government. Aside from certain local officials in subordinate positions, there is a complete merging of Party offices with those of the civil administration.

For the administration of the Eastern territories a new Ministry of the Occupied East was created with Alfred Rosenberg in charge. His Deputy is Gauleiter Alfred Meyer. Rosenberg is also Leader of the Arbeitsbereich Ost, but most of the actual Party work is handled by Staff Leader (Stabsleiter) Friedrich Schmidt.

The entire Arbeitsbereich is divided into two main Party Spheres (Bereiche)--"Ostland" and "Ukraine"--corresponding to the administrative divisions of the Reich Commissariats "Ostland" and "Ukraine". The Leader of the Party Bereich is in each case the Reich Commissioner--Hinrich Lohse for the "Ostland", Erich Koch for the "Ukraine". Both men also occupy the position of Gauleiter in the Reich (for Schleswig-Holstein and Ostpreussen respectively). Each Reich Commissariat is, in turn, subdivided into General Commissariats (Generalkommissariate). The Party regions which coincide with the General Commissariats of administration are called "Districts" (Bezirke).

There are four Party Districts in the Ostland: Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and White Russia; and six Party Districts in the Ukraine: Wohlhynia-Pólodonia, Zhitomir, Kiev, Dniepropetrovsk, Nikolaiev, and Krim (Melitopol).

As this correspondence between administrative and Party units is continued on the lower level of Regional Commissariats (Gebietskommissariate) which are simply called "Regions" (Gebiete) as Party units, personal and administrative union between Party and state is complete. Each Reichs-

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kommissar is at the same time Bereichsleiter of the Party; each General-kommissar is a Bezirksleiter; each Gebietskommissar, a Gebietsleiter.

Most of the Party officials have been imported from neighboring Gaue. Actual Party interests, however, are usually represented by the Deputy of the Leader. Only on the lower administrative levels has the lack of German personnel made it necessary to employ local administrative agencies and personnel.

Party Offices have been set up for Education, Racial Hygiene, Youth Administration, Finance, Propaganda, Organization. and Personnel. Others are to be formed later. It is said that "they are administered, to a large extent, by old Party members who combine their direction with work in the same or related fields of civil adminstration." By official decree, the NSDAP consists of all Reich Germans.

Of actual Party Formations, reports are scanty. The most important are the SS and other semi-military organizations, such as NSKK, OT, etc., which are surveyed in a separate study. Aside from its security and police functions, the SS is in charge of the re-Germanization campaign of Racial Germans. Waffen-SS units have come from Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania.

German Youth is organized in the Hitler Jugend and Bund Deutscher Mädel, attached to the Youth Section of the Reich Commissariats. The special BDM group, "Faith and Beauty," has been formed. The tasks of the HJ are similar to those in the Reich and every other country: for the boys, agricultural and semi-military work; for the girls, agricultural, domestic, and educational work. The activities of the NS Frauenschaft (including Deutsches Frauenwerk) are conducted under the auspices of the Women's Section of the Reich Commissariats. The NS Volkswohlfahrt is

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represented, chiefly through its Winter Relief Program (WHW). The Deutsche Arbeitsfront has established offices in Riga, and its "Strength Through Joy" program has been carried into the Eastern territories.

There are no native Party organizations either in the General Government or in the occupied East. This exclusion of the native population from active participation in the Nazification of their countries is justified by Nazi racial principles. The peoples of the East, especially the Poles, rank lowest in the Nazi racial ladder. But the ranks of the German elite are increased by a thorough-going process of re-Germanization, based on the same general principle which has led to the formation of the so-called "Folk-Groups" (Volksgruppen). In the East the task of regaining Racial Germans for the German Reich, and enlisting them into the Party elite for purposes of control and exploitation, has been especially entrusted to the SS under the leadership of Himmler, as Reich Commissioner for the Strengthening of the German Volk.

c. The Netherlands. The Party Sphere of Operations in the Netherlands is distinctive for two reasons: it has grown out of a Country Group of the AO; and, it is more delimited than the Spheres of Operation in the East because state and Party coordination in the administration of the country has not been adopted to an equal extent.

The Reich Commissioner of the Netherlands is not Leader of the Arbeitsbereich. Furthermore, the German Party operations are coordinated with the activities of a Native Dutch National Socialist Party (NSB). It has been Nazi policy to encourage the development of this Dutch Nazi Bund with parallel formations and organizations. German Party control is embedded in a more complex political and ideological situation and is exercised

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more subtly than in the Arbeitsbereiche General Government and East.

The Landesgruppe Netherlands of the AO was organized by Staff-Leader Ruberg shortly after the German invasion. The change from a Landesgruppe to an Arbeitsbereich was made because the facilities of the AO were insufficient for the tasks to be assigned to the Party in the transformation of the Netherlands. When the Party organization was taken out of the AO, an independent Arbeitsbereich of the NSDAP was established in Utrecht on 15 October 1940. This change was described as putting the German Party "into the very midst of the Netherlands community life."

The close participation of the Party in the political life of the Netherlands was guaranteed by the appointment of the Leader of the Arbeitsbereich (at first Hauptbereichsleiter Fritz Schmidt, but, after his death in June 1943, Willi Ritterbusch) to the position of Commissioner for Special Services (Generalkommissar zur besonderen Verwendung) in the Office of the Reich Commissioner. In this capacity he supervised all phases of ideological and political activity in the country--in particular, full control over propaganda agencies (press, radio, film, etc.) and political organizations in the Netherlands. He also had, as a representative of Sauckel, the task of Allocation of Labor, though this does not include other phases of economic planning and administration. Although the Reich Commissioner himself, Seyss-Tuguart, is not Leader of the Party Arbeitsbereich, he apparently retains some kind of advisory and supervisory position over Party activities inasmuch as the Arbeitsbereich is officially "placed under the Reich Commissioner" ("dem Reichskommissar unterstellt").

The regional organization follows the pattern set by the Landesgruppe, with the lower groups consisting of Counties, Local Groups, Cells, and

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Operational Bases.

In respect to functional organizations and formations, the SS, in charge of all police and security, is under the leadership of the Higher SS and Police Leader Hans Rauter. The Dutch SS formations are known as "Germanic SS Netherlands" and have been placed almost completely under German domination. A Waffen-SS Division,"Germanic SS Netherlands," is being activated.

The NS Kraftfahrkorps has publicly advertised for the enlistment of Dutchmen in its ranks. It is also known to have a liaison official (Verbindungsfuehrer) with the Reich Commissariat--a representation which enlarges the Party's influence in administrative matters. It may be assumed that other Party Formations (SS, SA, HJ, etc.) have a similar representation in the administration. SS, NSKK, OT, and Speer all employ Hollanders.

The Hitler Jugend cooperates closely with the Dutch Nazi Youth Organization, Nationale Jeugdstorm (NJS). The influence is exerted through special training in schools and camps. There are HJ and BDM camps in Holland for courses in leadership. Dutch Youth Leaders regularly attend the Nazi German Leadership schools for special work (e.g., in Babelsberg, and Potsdam).

Of the Affiliated Organizations, the NS Volkswahlfahrt has taken over all relief measures during and after air raids. Here too the activities of the Dutch and German Welfare organization are closely linked. Bereicheleiter Mueller, Leader of the NSDAP Bureau for People's Welfare, is in charge of the activities of both. The "Mother and Child" program of the NSV has been introduced. The NSV has founded kindergartens throughout the country and inaugurated exchanges of children with Germany.

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The Women's Organization (NSF) follows the same pattern. It has established schools for educational and vocational training. Some courses are obligatory for brides of Dutch SS men, and there is a special "Mothers' Service." The NSF cooperates with and supervises Dutch women's organizations.

Finally, the German Labor Front (DAF) was combined with the Reich organization and followed the policies and pattern of the German sister organization.

Parallel organizations of the NSB have been widely encouraged. Its leader, Mussert, has even been permitted to form a personal cabinet which was granted certain "advisory" powers to the administration, without, however, infringing upon the "rights of the occupying power". The Dutch Nazis enjoy administrative independence in their own organization inasmuch as control by the German Party is confined to certain key positions.

d. Norway. The situation of the Party in Norway resembles that in the Netherlands, though Norway has not been organized as an Arbeitsbereich of the NSDAP. In both countries, a native puppet government is subordinated to a civil administration headed by a Reich Commissioner; and native fascist organizations are encouraged under the control and supervision of the NSDAP.

Differences are of degree rather than of kind. The Party organization in Norway, remaining under the jurisdiction of the AO, functions as a Country Group (Landesgruppe), subdivided into smaller county and local units. Native Nazi organizations seem to have been given a larger share in the control of the country, and recently most of the Norwegian police were replaced by members of the Hird, who have been incorporated into the German armed forces of Norway. The position of Quisling's Nasjonal Samling,

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too, has assumed a quasi-official status in contrast to the purely advisory, nominal functions of the Dutch Nazi cabinet under Mussert. Nevertheless, the Party's sphere of influence in Norway is great.

It is not exercised directly through the Landesgruppe of the AO, and its various subdivisions, which are concerned with the affairs of Reich Germans in Norway. Instead a special NS Einsatzstab (task staff) is one of the Main Departments -- Department VIII -- of the Reich Commissariat. This Party representation is closely attached to Main Department I, "Administration," in all matters of foreign and internal policy. It is also responsible for contact with and supervision of the Norwegian puppet government of the Nasjonal Samling, together with the direction of German and Norwegian political organizations. In short, its functions seem to coincide with those of the Commissioner for Special Services in the Reich Commissariat of the Netherlands.

The leader of the Einsatzstab, SS Obersturmbannfuehrer Hans Friedrich Neumann, is also Leader of the NSDAP Landesgruppe, Chief of the Security Police, and unofficial Deputy to the Reich Commissioner, Josef Terboven. The range of the Party influence through the Einsatzstab is indicated by the representation of the Party in all branch offices (Aussenstellen) by two Germans: a political leader for all Party organizations and an SS officer for the Hird. The personal union between Landesgruppe and Einsatzstab through Neumann is carried into the lower units, which are frequently directed by members of the Einsatzstab.

There are other channels through which the Party exercises control in state affairs. Some branches of the Party organization are integrated with the corresponding branches of the Reich Commissariat. Thus the Einsatzstabe of the Organization Todt and Transportflotte Speer are in-

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cluded in the Technical Department IV of the Commissariat.

The SS is in complete control of all police and security operations under SS Obergruppenfuehrer and General of Police Wilhelm Rediess. (Neumann, in his capacity as chief of the German Security Police, is subordinate to Rediess.) The SS maintains a special "Main Sector" (Oberabschnitt) at Oslo. Its powers were greatly increased recently after the appointment of SS Chief Himmler as Reich Minister of the Interior and after disturbances in the regular Norwegian police. The Norwegian SS formation, Germanic SS Norway, bears the same name as its Dutch counterpart, Germanic SS Netherlands -- another fact indicative of the influence of the Reich SS over these foreign units.

The Hitler Youth cooperates closely with the different units of the Unghird (Marine, Land, and Air), the Norwegian Youth organization, in all matters pertaining to the future training of Norwegian Nazis. This includes special training courses in Germany and "land service" in Norway, Germany, and the territories of the occupied East. There is a close relationship between the NS Frauanschaft and the Nasjonal Samling Women's Organization, as between the activities of the NSV and the native organization charged with similar functions.

Though martial law was proclaimed in August 1943, without any special provocation, this change has not materially affected the position of the Party inasmuch as complete cooperation exists between SS forces, responsible for internal security, and the military authorities. In spite of the increasing military control, the Party machinery appears to remain substantially what it was and to cooperate smoothly with the military authorities. Proclamation of a military emergency affects more the general

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administrative apparatus, where civil servants become Wehrbeamte, than the auxiliary controls of the Party.

e. The Protectorate. Special conditions affecting the position of the Party are found in the Protectorate Bohemia-Moravia. In spite of being incorporated in the Reich, the Protectorate still has a semi-autonomous government. The German administrative and control agencies are only superimposed on the pre-Nazi administrative pattern, which is largely retained. Moreover, there are no native fascist Party organizations through which the Party could indirectly influence the Czech part of the population. For these reasons the position of the Party in the Protectorate does not show the same identification and interpenetration of state and Party functions as in the other countries. Nevertheless, Party control and influence remain dominant, as in all occupied territories under civil administration.

Regionally, the Protectorate has not been treated as a single Party unit, but divided among four Gaue: Reichsgaue Sudetenland, Upper and Lower Danube, and Gau Bayreuth. In these Reichsgaue, in contrast to the regular Reichsgau pattern, the sphere of Party administration extends beyong the boundaries of government administration. Henlein, leader of the Sudeten "German Party," has become Gauleiter of the Sudetenland.

The administration of the Reich Protectorate has been in the hands of trusted Party men ever since the retirement of von Neurath. Heydrich, Daluege, and Frank have exercised their power through all available SS agencies. Frank's new position as Minister of State seems to include most of the actual executive functions in the Protectorate; while the Reich Protector, Frick, former Reich Minister of the Interior, functions more or

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less as a figurehead.

Moreover, the Party participates in the administration through other offices. There is a special Party Liaison Officer (Schulte-Schomburg), attached to the Office of the Reich Protector. The Chief of the Cultural Policy Department is SS Sturmbannfuehrer Martin Wolf, a special Deputy of the NSDAP Reichspropagandaleitung. The Trustee for Organizations is also a Party man (Oberbereichsleiter Newburg in April 1942). Finally, the economic policies of the Protectorate were placed in January 1942, under another German from the Reich, Dr. Walter Bertsch, head of the Ministry of Economics. After a long civil service career, he has also been given a high Party position (SS Oberfuehrer). Thus the Party is in control of matters of internal security (through the SS), of propaganda and ideology, and of economics, industry, and labor.

Most of the Party Formations and Affiliated Organizations are represented also. The Sudeten "German Party" under Nenlein was transformed into an official unit of the NSDAP. Units of the SS, NSKK, and NSV crossed the border together with units of the Wehrmacht. They were joined immediately by especially trained Landsturm units of the Sudeten "German Party," which were SA units in every respect except name and uniform.

The SA has since been organized on the Reich pattern. Its functions during wartime are again those of training before and after military service. The latest Wehrkampftag of the SA was held at Prague on 15 August 1943.

HJ and BDM have their own regional commands in the Protectorate. They are actively supported by HJ and BDM units sent from the Reich for agricultural work with Umsiedlungsbauern as well as for re-Germanization

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activities among racial Germans.

Other Party organizations include the NS Frauenschaft and NS Volkswohlfart identical with those of the Reich organizations. All these Party activities are, of course, restricted to the German minority. However, due to the special rights and privileges granted to the German minority in the Protectorate, this minority and the Party have assumed the position of a dominant majority. There is a separate section on the Protectorate, which includes Party activities, and SS, NSKK, OT, and Baustab Speer are also treated separately.

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D. The Party in Territories under Military Administration

The branches of the AO in territories under military administration are, so far as concerns their internal organization, practically independent of the military authorities. The same seems to be true for the position and functions of the SS, which either remains directly under Himmler's command or cooperates so closely and successfully with the military authorities as to enjoy a practically autonomous position. Wherever there are native Party organizations, as in Belgium and France, these organizations are modelled after the German pattern and are largely controlled by German Party men or by corresponding Party units (especially labor, youth, women, and welfare).

This relative independence of the Party, however, has also lessened the participation of Party functionaries and organizations in the actual administrative processes. There are no Party Arbeitsbereiche, political Einsatzstaebe, or Party "Commissioners for Special Services." Thus the army administration seems to place relatively little emphasis on Party work as a special branch of its own administrative apparatus. Those Party organizations which are represented by special Einsatzstaebe are, aside from the SS, all semi-military organizations, such as NSKK, OT, etc. The latter are coordinated with the Wehrmacht even to the extent of receiving army pay, food, and clothing, and are primarily engaged in military work of supply, transport, and construction.

1. Belgium. The Landesgruppe Belgium of the NSDAP, headed by Adolf Schulze (Deputy, Julius Reinhard Koch), is organized according to the regular pattern of Counties, Local Groups, Cells, and Operational Branches.

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Information on the Party's activities and participation in the administration of the country is limited. It is known that the Main Department "Administration" in the military government of Belgium under von Falkenhausen is headed by SS Obergruppenfuehrer Eggert Reeder, who seems to be an old civil servant with SS connections.

It has also been reported that "thousands" have joined the NSKK and the OT. These organizations, together with the SS and HJ, are most prominent, as in all other occupied countries. Members of the Belgian Nazi Youth Movement (NSJV) have received special training courses in Hitler Youth camps and school in both Belgium and Germany. Both German and Belgian Youth are called up for special "land service" in the Reich and in the Eastern territories. One of the Belgian Youth schools, the Albrecht Rodenbach School at Vilvorde, founded in 1941, was actually transferred to the Reich (Muenchen-Gladbach) in 1942 because of food and fuel difficulties.

The contributions of Belgian Nazis to the Waffen SS are fully described elsewhere. There is a Walloon Legion and a Flemish Legion. The latter has recently been given the honorary title of "Sturmbrigade Langemarck." The SS has also assumed full control over certain local semi-military security organizations of the Belgian Nazi Parties (VNV and Rex) such as ZB ("Black Brigade") and DM-WB ("Flemish Military Watch Brigade"). According to a recent report concerning the reorganization of the DM-WB into the Militarisierte Wehrmachtsgefolge, the members of this security organization are now on equal footing with German soldiers, as far as pay, rationing, and free clothing are concerned.

Other means of Party control are found in the supervision of Belgian Labor. The Arbeitsorde, the labor organization of the VNV, sent workers

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to Germany as early as 1939. Since then Belgian Labor has been exploited for Nazi purposes under the auspices of the DAF (Deutsche Arbeitsfront), with the collaboration of native groups, as is labor in every other occupied territory.

There exists also a German-Flemish cultural society Devlag (Deutsch-Vlaamsche Arbeitsgemeenschap), which cooperates with the DAF. In Germany it is under the direction of SS Obergruppenfuehrer Berger, who seems to be in charge of a special Foreign Department in the SS Main Office. No further information is available. (The Party in Belgium is also treated in the regional report on Belgium.)

2. France. The former French territories of Alsace and Lorraine, though not yet formally annexed, are treated in all matters of administration, law, finance, etc., as if they were genuine parts of the Reich. As to the Party administration and organization of these regions, Lorraine has been incorporated into the Gau Westmark (under Josef Buerckel), which may be considered a Reichsgau in everything but name. Alsace, on the other hand, has become part of the Party Gau Baden under Robert Wagner.

Information about Party activities in the rest of France is scanty. France is an official Landesgruppe of the AO, directed by Landesgruppenleiter Hubl (formerly Neuendorf), with Amtsleiter Heide as deputy. Since 1940, the local branches of the organization have been increased considerably, and, since the complete occupation of continental France, new local groups have been reported, not only in Paris, but in Bourges, Nevers, Dijon, Besancon, and Lyon. It may be assumed that this process has since been extended.

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There are other close ties between Party officials and representatives of the German government. Otto Abetz, for example, has been a prominent Party man for many years and his subversive Nazi activities before and after the fall of France are well known. On the other hand, the German Party's activities are held within definite bounds by the special conditions of the French situation. As well as a German military administration (under von Stuelpnagel), France has been granted, especially in what was formerly known as the "Unoccupied Zone," a high degree of self-administration extending from the Vichy government to local officials. German influence makes itself felt, not by direct administrative or Party coordination, but in a less obvious manner through indirect control of Vichy groups or key positions in French finance, industry, conscript labor, and French prisoners of war in Germany.

3. Serbia. As here the pattern of the Folk-Group (Volksgruppe) has been adopted for Reich and Racial Germans within the framework of military occupation and the puppet Serbian regime, Serbia is described under Chapter F, on the Folk-Group.

4. Greece. Information about Party activities in Greece is extremely limited. There is a Landesgruppe of the Auslandsorganisation, headed by Dr. Boeringer (formerly Dr. Wrede, attaché at the German Embassy in Athens), and its activities are obviously confined to German citizens (Reichsdeutsche) and are without any apparent influence upon administrative affairs. The fifth-column activities of the Landesgruppe Greece, prior to invasion, were described in a personal diary of Wrede himself. Wrede also mentions the presence of HJ units, which apparently moved into the country with the invading armies.

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E. The Party in Denmark

The position of the Party is determined by the unique administrative occupation pattern used in Denmark, and the separate treatment for North-Schleswig. In the latter the Germans established a Volksgruppe organization which seems to indicate that this part of Denmark will eventually be again incorporated in the Reich. Its activities are described in Chapter F on Folk-Groups.

The administration of Denmark has been unique among German occupation patterns in that it most resembles an occupation in accordance with international law. Denmark was the only country where a native government was permitted to continue its own administrative machinery. Germany's control over the country was exercised only through the commander of the German troops in Denmark (von Hanneken) and a German plenipotentiary and ambassador (SS Leader Dr. Best). This relatively liberal pattern recently broke down under the impact of Danish revolts and acts of sabotage. The country has now been placed under military law and authority. A detailed exposition of these administrative matters and their effect upon the status of the Party may be found in the separate study on Denmark.

Prior to the break-down, however, the Danish pattern of occupation reduced the position and activities of the German Party in Denmark (other than North Schleswig) to a minimum. Denmark is a Landesgruppe of the Auslandsorganisation, under the leadership of Julius Daldorf, but its activities were restricted to the affairs of Reich citizens. It did not participate in government affairs nor maintain any contact with the Danish Nazi Party (DNSAP) under Fritz Clausen. In fact, the Nazi position in Denmark is best characterized by the subordinate role played by the

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Danish Nazis. Without popular support in Denmark, they received no assistance or recognition even by the Germans. Their own semi-military organization, the SA (from which the so-called "Free Corps Volunteers" are recruited) and their Youth Organization (NSU) have been reported in a state of "reorganization" and "disintegration." The Party itself has been said to be in a condition of "decay." A delegation of the NSU, however, did attend the European Youth Congress in September 1942, and both boys and girls have been sent to leadership schools in Germany.

The most direct Party influence upon Denmark is perhaps exerted through Danish workers in Germany. The Danish Nazis have established a special "District Germany," headed by Ejnar Joergensen, for the conversion of these workers to Nazism. It may be assumed that these activities are carried out in close conjunction with agencies of the NSDAP. As to Danish affairs themselves, the Nazi Landesgruppe seems to have no importance whatsoever.

F. Folk-Groups (Volksgruppen)

While officially the activities of the AO are limited to German citizens residing in foreign countries, actually the term "Foreign German" (Auslandsdeutscher) has, in accordance with Nazi racial ideology, been interpreted to include both Reichsdeutsche and Volksdeutsche--citizens of the Reich as well as the so-called Racial Germans. As Bohle himself stated in Stuttgart at the AO meeting of 1937: "The German racial community, preached by Adolf Hitler, was the only basis upon which the unification of Germandom abroad could have taken place." It is for this reason that the Volksdeutsche organizations abroad must be discussed in connection with the foreign activities of the NSDAP.

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The concept of the racial German, the racial group, or racial community (Volksdeutscher, Volksgruppe, or Volksgemeinschaft) is derived from a racial theory which has been one of the most persistent themes in Nazi ideology. It has been used for similar purposes in internal and in foreign politics. Inside the Reich the racial theory, as applied primarily to Jews and Communists, has resolved conflicting ideologies within Party ranks, waged political warfare against the Republic, and spearheaded material exploitation and terror against opposition in the Third Reich.

In the annexed and occupied territories the doctrine has been applied in two ways: to grant a German minority the legal status of a dominant majority, as in the Protectorate, the Netherlands, Norway, General Government, and the occupied East; to grant a German minority such a degree of legal independence and autonomy that it functions as a "state within the state," through which the Reich can exercise its own political influence in the remaining countries of Europe.

In the former territories, these purposes were achieved by a systematic campaign of re-Germanization of Racial Germans under the direction of the SS. Himmler and the SS were specifically entrusted with this task on 7 October 1939, when Himmler assumed the title and position of Reich Commissioner for the Strengthening of German Folkdom (Reichskommissar fuer die Festigung deutschen Volkstums).

As part of this campaign, Volksdeutsche are gradually transferred, if they are willing and judged acceptable, to the status of citizens of the Reich; hence it is not necessary to establish (or to continue as they existed previously) separate Volksgruppen organizations. As long as these Racial Germans are not yet citizens, they fall under this Party program

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of repatriation. At the time of Himmler's appointment as Minister of the Interior, it was claimed that he had repatriated some seven hundred thousand Germans from all parts of Europe. On becoming German citizens, these Racial Germans become subject to all regular Party organizations and activities and, in turn, participate in all rights, powers, and privileges of German citizens. Before the occupation of these territories, this process of re-Germanization had been prepared by various so-called "German Parties," as in the Sudetenland, Poland, North Schleswig, etc., which were later merged with the NSDAP.

In the countries of Europe which have retained a measure of independence (such as Hungary and Rumania) or pseudo-autonomy under German domination, German racial minorities have been organized into Racial or Folk-Groups. The rights and powers of these minorities are defined by special protective treaties (Volksgruppenschutzvertraege), based on a new kind of Folk-Group law (Volksgruppenrecht). The organization of the Racial Groups is independent of the regular Party branches of the AO, which maintains in all cases its own branch Organization for Reichsdeustche. However, as the Racial Groups are completely dominated by the National Socialist Party, which has become their sole political instrument, it is necessary to review their activities as part of the Party pattern of occupation and control.

The idea of Nazi protection of German minorities was developed in opposition to the idea of minority protection under the Versailles Treaty and the League of Nations Covenant. The Nazis reject the Geneva principle of providing protection for individual members of minorities or separate groups and institutions (schools, churches, etc.). In place of this principle, they substitute the protection of the minority group as a whole,

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With corporate existence and representation under law. Instead of international guarantees for the members of any minority group in any country, the Nazi theory delegates protection of the Racial Group to the Mother Country. This method clearly introduces an element of extreme inequality, as minority protection becomes proportionate to the strength of the Mother Country. The result is that the Folk-Group becomes the respresentative of, and spearhead for, outside political influences.

In conjunction with the Nazi doctrine of racial superiority, this legal basis has been applied in such a way as to introduce a hierarchy of races, play off different Folk-Groups against one another, and set up the German minority as a "state within the state" through which the Reich can exert its power. Nazi theorists have emphasized the novel legal and constitutional aspects of theFolk-Group laws and treaties.

The theory of Racial Groups and their relation to the Mother State has also served as an effective spearhead for Nazi imperialist ambitions and expansions. First officially invoked by the Fuehrer in the Reichstag speech of 20 February 1938, it was again appealed to during the subsequent Polish crisis, and has since served as justification for the annexation of West Prussia, Posen, East Upper Silesia, Eupen-Malmedy, Moresnet, Alsace, and Lorraine.

Folk-Group (Volksgruppen) organizations have been established in Rumania, Hungary, Croatia, Slovakia, and Serbia.

1. Rumania. The articles of the agreement between the German and Rumanian governments for the protection of the German racial groups in Rumania were announced 23 October 1940.

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The principal points of the agreement are:

(1) The German Folk-Group is a "legal person" according to public law.

(2) The National Socialist Workers' Party of the German Folk-Group in Rumania expresses the will and constitutes the executive organ of the German folk-group.

(3) The German Folk-Group in Rumania, in agreement with the government of the National Legionary State, decrees the laws of its own particular life, aiming at the preservation and strengthening of the German Folk-Group.

(4) The leader of the German Folk-Group in Rumania (Andreas Schmidt) and the Minister of Justice are entrusted with the execution of this decree.

As a result of this agreement, the influence of the German Evangelical Churches over foreign Germans has been shorn of its former strength. The supervision of German schools in Rumania, for example, formerly one of their chief tasks, has now been placed in the hands of the leadership of the Nazi racial group. The Churches, as the official Nazi commentator says, are now again free to concentrate upon their particular sphere, namely, "the care of souls." The old Bishop of the German Evangelical Church (Wilhelm Staedel) was replaced by a new ecclesiastic, Victor Glondys. In short, the Party has taken over complete control as "the executive organ of the Folk-Group." As to war contribution of the Volksdeutsche in Rumania, it is claimed that 67,000 members of the Folk-Group are under arms, of which 42,000 serve in the Waffen-SS or the regular army.

2. Hungary. The Hungarian agreement is much more extensive and detailed. This is perhaps due to the superior bargaining power of the Hungarian government as compared with the puppet system under Antonescu. The German Folk-Group, headed by Dr. Franz Basch, is guaranteed the right to organize itself and form associations for special purposes, such as sport

and care of youth. Likewise its authority is acknowledged in matters of economic self-help and the development of cooperatives. Its members enjoy full vocational equality with other Hungarian citizens. They also have the right to positions in the magistracy and administrative bodies in proportion to their number in the total population. German officials, however, are to be given preference in regions settled by Germans, as well as in central offices superior to these.

Free use of the German language, attendance in German schools, and training of a sufficient number of German teachers are also guaranteed. The German language will be accepted in official matters in those administrative districts in which the members of the Folk-Group constitute one-third of the entire population. This is a greater concession by the Reich government than in Croatia, where 20% and 10% are considered sufficient for linguistic representation. The German press is not to be subject to any restrictions which do not have general application. All efforts of Magyarization are ruled out, and members of the Folk-Group have the right to free cultural intercourse with the mother land. They are also said to have contributed 20,000 men to the Waffen SS. On the other hand, the Government of the Reich nominally recognizes the loyalty of the Folk-Group members to the the Hungarian state.

3. Croatia. In the new state of Croatia, the autonomy of the German Folk-Group and the powers of its leaders have been extended even further. It appears that the legal position of the German Volksgruppe in both Croatia and Slovakia was not established by separate agreement between the Reich and the respective governments of these countries, but was incorporated into law by an act of state.

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The Croatian state leader, Dr. Pavelich, issued a special law concerning the legal status of the German Folk-Group. In the main, it embodies the same principles as the agreements guaranteeing the rights of the Volksgruppen in Hungary and Rumania. The German Folk-Group is allowed to set up organizations, units, and arrangements for unhampered activity in the political, economic, and social spheres. More specifically, the broad powers of the law grant to the Leader of the Volksgruppe, Brainimir Altgayer, the powers of a Secretary of State. His right of issuing state decrees is subordinate only to the Poglavnik, the Croatian state Leader. German and Croatian are recognized as official administrative languages wherever the German population represents more than 20 percent of the total population (as compared with 33 1/3 percent representation in the case of Hungary); public announcements, as well as place and street names, must appear in both languages. Where the German population exceeds 10 percent it has the right to use German in any official business.

Aside from the Volksgruppen organization, the Landesgruppe of the AO in Croatia, headed by Rudolf Empting, is divided into Districts, Cells, Country and City blocks. One hundred political leaders are said to be in charge of the affairs of 3,300 Reichsdeutsche.

4. Slovakia. The situation in Slovakia is similar to that in Croatia. The Leader of the German Folk-Group, Franz Karmasin, has held the position and powers of a Secretary of State in charge of German affairs since October 1938. The Volksgruppe Slovakia is organized in the "German Party" of Slovakia under Karmasin. There is no other political organization. It has grown out of the Carpathian "German Party" (Karpathendeutsche Partei), the Slovakian adjunct to the Sudeten "German Party" under Henlein.

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The Volksgruppen organization includes an SA (Freiwillige Schutzstaffel) and a Youth Group (Deutsche Jugend) toward whose maintenance "the Slovak State contributes adequately." Apart from collaborating on the legislation which concerns exclusively the German Racial Group, the German State Secretariat also collaborated in drafting many other laws and decrees--as the military law which places members of the Waffen SS on the same footing as soldiers in the Slovak army, and the anti-Jewish legislation. In municipalities with a considerable German population, the Government Commissioner is appointed in agreement with the German State Secretariat, and there are German representatives on the county boards. The German State Secretariat also passes final judgment on the political reliability of German applicants for public posts and state officials.

5. North Schleswig. There is a similar "German Party" in that part of Denmark, North Schleswig, which Germany has always considered a part of the Reich. This "German Party," under the leadership of Dr. Moeller, represents the German Volksgruppe in North Schleswig, which, as mentioned, exists separately from the Landesgruppe Denmark of the AO.

The Party is composed of seventy-three Local Groups. Youth, Women, Welfare, and Labor organizations are represented. Recent information on the Youth Organization (Deutsche Jungenschaft) mentions semi-military activities and collections. The NSF specializes in welfare work for mothers and children (Mothers' Service) in cooperation with the NSV. The two organizations are reported to have sent 3,842 children and mothers to Germany during 1942.

Special services include army commissaries (Wehrmachtverpflegungsstellen), Winter Help, and Self Help. The Labor organization also controls

Racial Germans working outside of North Schleswig and, like the German Labor Front, supervises all questions of pay, insurance, and transfer. There are also special professional and vocational groups for trades, crafts, etc.

6. Serbia. The case of Serbia presents special conditions. While the country was under General Bader's military government, a semi-autonomous puppet government under Nedich was allowed administrative functions in relation to the Serbian part of the population. The German minority, the greater part of which (about 500,000) had been incorporated into Croatia, Hungary, and Carinthia, was given an independent and practically autonomous status. It is organized in a Folk-Group the center of which lies in the Banat.

The official name of the organization is Deutsche Volksgruppe im Banat und Serbien. Its leader is Dr. Sepp Janko; its headquarters are at Petrovgrad (Veliki Beckerek).

Detailed information on the inner organization of the Volksgruppe is available. It consists of the following departments:

1. Stabsamt (Staff and Headquarters Office).

2. Organisationsamt maintains a card index of all Volksdeutsche and guards the functioning of all minority regulations.

3. Kulturamt is responsible for the control of the schools and the direction of scientific and artistic research.

4. Amt fuer Volksgesundheit handles questions of health.

5. Amt fuer Volkswohlfahrt is responsible for the social welfare of the German community, for Winter Relief, and for various collections for the Wehrmacht.

6. Amt fuer Volkswirtschaft is in charge of the entire policy of Volksdeutsche economy, and control of German cooperatives.

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The activities of the Volksgruppe are guaranteed by decrees of the Serbian government "according to the Croat pattern." Thus the Volksgruppe of the Banat enjoys the same rights and privileges as do the Germans in Rumania, Hungary, Slovakia, and Croatia. Its leader is in charge of all Racial Germans and has direct influence over the appointment of all administrative officers for the Banat.

Of special organizations the Deutsche Mannschaft (DM) and the Deutsche Jugend (DJ) are engaged either in military or semi-military work against Serbian guerillas. The functions of the German Womens' Organization (Deutsche Frauenschaft) and German Labor Service (Arbeitsdienst) correspond to those of their sister organizations in the Reich. A German Schulverein, which developed out of Schulstiftung der Deutschen in the Banat, and a Volksdeutscher Schriftleiterverband are considered Affiliated Associations. Educational measures in particular are emphasized in the re-Germanization program of the Party. By decree of the government, the Volksgruppe has been allowed to set up as many schools as it desires. It is planned to have German schools in every parish where there is a minimum of fifteen German children of school age. In addition there are five German Middle Schools and a Teacher's Training College. In July 1942 an institute for racial research (Heimattorschung) was opened at Vrsac, and branches have been established in other parts of the country. All Church organizations belong to the German Evangelical Church.

The Banat has been turned almost completely into an independent German unit with its own German administration. The Volksgruppe naturally exercises full control over the appointment of all administrative and judicial personnel. Thus the Vizebanus for the Banat (Sepp Lapp) must be a Racial

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German appointed by the Serbian Minister of the Interior with approval of the Leader, Sepp Janko. All section chiefs in the administration of the Banat are appointed by the Serbian government with approval of the Vizebanus. All lower officials are directly appointed by the Vizebanus himself. If necessary, civil service requirements may be waived in the selection of these officials.

This same practical autonomy holds for the judiciary. The president of the highest Court of Appeals in the Banat must be a Racial German. All lower judges are appointed by nomination of the President. A detailed account of these administrative matters may be found in the study on Yugoslavia.

The Germans in the rest of Serbia are combined into a County Group, called "Prince Eugene" (Prinz Eugen Kreis). It consists of four Local Groups in Belgrade, twelve other Local Groups, and sixty Operational Bases (Stuetzpunkte). The Prinz Eugen Kreis is described as serving "the function of a National Socialist Party" among the members of the German minority in Serbia, i.e., outside the Banat.

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NOTES

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5. Reich Commissioner Seyss-Inquart, "The Political Task of the Reich Commissariat," Ztsch. fuer Voelk. Verfassung und Verwaltung, Vol. III.

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